

# CALIFORNIA'S COLD WATER CURE FOR CRIMINALS



California prison could not tell their grievance when they were given a chance—but some morning the prisoners refuse to obey orders. It is just the contrary of despair. They are passive. They refuse to leave their cells or touch their work. To begin to shoot them down would be to change their passivity into the most desperate action. You cannot scare them—life means so little that a threat of death becomes a cause for glee and jeers.

Let them continue their din until they wear themselves out?

You who suggest that never heard the "dead cry." This is a short hoarse bark, probably never heard outside of prison. When a thousand prisoners are giving it at regular intervals of a second or two day and night, pounding an accompaniment with their tin cups on their iron

with force enough to knock the breath out of them.

Now penologists are disputing whether Warden Hale's system was too mild or too severe.

It succeeded perfectly.

There had been some shooting by the guards when some of the ringleaders broke down the door of the dungeon. The guards were ordered to fire at the door, and the

Warden ordered the hose put on. The guards stuck the nozzles of the fire hose in the wickets and played the full strength of the stream on the inmates until they were drenched into silence. During the duration of the riot the prisoners got only bread and water for meals.

The water cure was successful. The prisoners are back at work in the jute mill, except the ring leaders, who are being punished by imprisonment in the dungeon.

This is the only time during Warden Hale's long incumbency that he has used any form of corporal punishment.

At Sing Sing different methods have been employed with success. Conley's weighing machine was introduced by Warden Brush. It consisted of a board about three feet long and two feet wide, fastened to the wall about five feet above the floor. It

was called the lever. At the bottom of this board was fastened a large iron meat hook. The convict was handcuffed and the arms raised above his head and the handcuffs were slipped over the hook.

Then, with a keeper on either side, the board was raised by means of pegs inserted in holes beneath each side of the board, until the convict's feet were off the ground. This caused the most intense pain, and

through a squirt gun. This almost choked the prisoners and has a very quieting effect.

When Warden Sage was asked his opinion on the quelling of convict riots, he said: "There are only two occasions when the convicts are all together, and that is in the messroom during meals and in the chapel on Sundays.

In the mess hall there are twelve hundred men seated. There are also twenty officers armed with pistols and clubs. The doors to the mess hall are locked on the outside, and are guarded each by an officer. If a riot should occur the doors would at once be slammed and locked by the officers outside.

If the officers inside could not by ordinary means compel the convicts to obey, then they would resort to firearms, but if the convicts once got outside the doors the

punishments—loss of commuted time and 50 cents per day deduction from earnings. "Loss of time is a great deterrent. A man who was formerly a judge came here and was appointed a hospital nurse in the

# SING SING'S AMMONIA SQUIRT GUN FOR REBELS



## PLAYING A STREAM OF COLD WATER

retreated cowed to their cells, but suppose they did nothing so violent. Suppose they merely rebelled in their cells, refused to go to work and began an unearthly din and would not be still. If there were two or three or twenty of these rebellious ones you could lock them in a dark dungeon and keep them on bread and water, but suppose seven hundred began the riot at once, as they did at the California Penitentiary at San Quentin recently. You cannot put seven hundred men in a dungeon.

Starve them into submission in their cells?

When one of these hysterical tidal waves comes over a prison full of convicts you dare not starve them utterly. They are so desperate that maybe hundreds of them would die of hunger before the main body ceased their din, and a modern community would hardly stand prisoners being starved to death, no matter what their offence.

Rebellion in a prison is an awful thing. As long as it is not epidemic, as long as there is no concert of purpose, the insurrection is not difficult to deal with, but when nearly the whole desperate population of a penal institution is risen ordinary remedies are of no use. A prison warden never knows when he will be called upon to face this situation. There may be no specific cause for it—the convicts in the

doors, the effect is bloodcurdling. It can be heard for miles, and the man who hears it never forgets it. It gets mechanical, and the prisoners carry it on by relays, so all are never exhausted at once.

Prison guards have been driven insane by it, and wardens have resigned their lucrative positions rather than live where the promise of its repetition is always in the air. A man does not have to be nervous to be driven frantic by it. Ask any man who has had years of experience handling great bodies of convicts. He will tell you that when the "dead cry" is raised in an institution every officer about it will be unstrung before it has been going on an hour and a day of it will demoralize the best staff of officers that ever watched over men.

It cannot be allowed to continue. It must be stopped, and the best way of bringing such convicts back under control has been the theme of discussion among prison keepers all over the country.

The discussion was engendered by the California affair.

Warden Hale, of San Quentin, after pandemonium had reigned for three days adopted a scheme that effectually checked the riot. He had his guards lay down their rifles and armed them with fire hose, and the rebellious ones were half drowned in their cells by streams of cold water thrown

## HOW THEY USED TO DISCIPLINE PRISONERS AT SING SING BY SUSPENDING THEM, HANDCUFFED, FROM A HOOK IN THE CEILING.

bullets spluttering on the stone walls and doors were sufficient notification that if anybody tried to rush out his body would be filled with rifle balls. There was no rush. The strike was among the 700 convicts who worked in the jute mill. These refused to work and raised a great uproar, but they obeyed the order to return to their cells. Then they began to raise Cain. They tore their bedsteads to pieces and pounded on the iron doors and raised that awful prison yell. Whenever an officer passed through the prison yard he was assailed with a torrent of abuse from the cells.

For twenty-four hours the prisoners kept it up, regardless of the Warden's threats of punishment. Finally most of the noise-making was left to the hard men who occupied a tier of cells known as "Killer's Alley." These were still yelling when the

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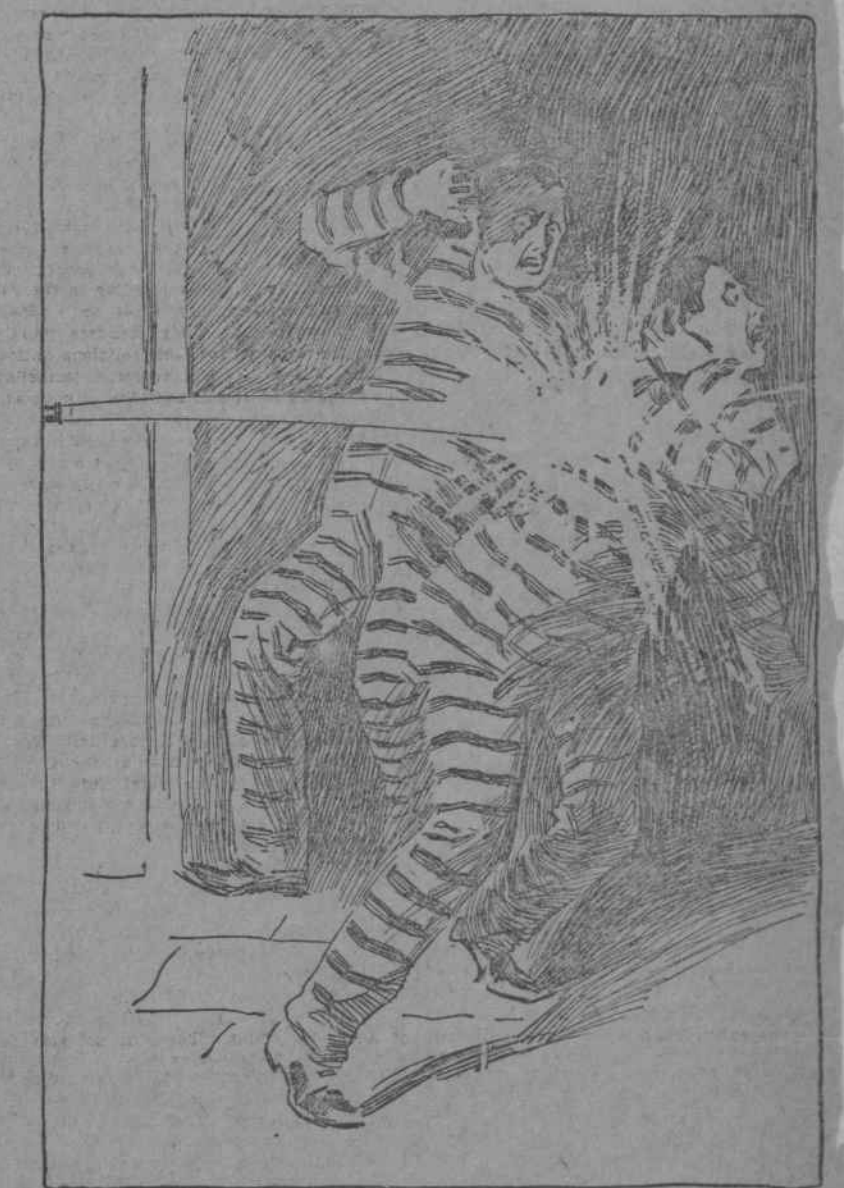
At Sing Sing different methods have been employed with success. Conley's weighing machine was introduced by Warden Brush. It consisted of a board about three feet long and two feet wide, fastened to the wall about five feet above the floor. It

could not be borne over one minute. It always produced submission on the part of the prisoner. According to Keeper Gravis, who has been in the prison seventeen years, it was one of the best instruments of punishment ever used.

A few years ago laws were passed abolishing such punishment, together with the shower bath, the yoke and back and flogging. There were three of these weighing machines at Sing Sing on the north wall of the dungeon, but they were removed two years ago.

Often convicts rebel in their cells, and when the guard calls the hour they set up a wild yelling and pound on the floor with cups, pails or anything to make a noise. The pandemonium is deafening and has been known to drive keepers insane.

One method used at Sing Sing to stop it is by spraying the cell with ammonia



## ON THE ST. QUENTIN PRISON RIOTERS

escape of a part of them could not be avoided.

"If a riot should occur in the chapel, there is only one door leading to it. This would be locked and the same means would be resorted to as in the mess hall.

"On either of these occasions the hose could be used to good advantage.

"A riot is brought about by an appeal or some sudden action on the part of one convict. Consequences are never coolly considered. The popular opinion is that all convicts are desperate characters. This is entirely erroneous. There are naturally as many here as elsewhere, but a large proportion of the prisoners are men who came here not because they have habitual criminal instincts, but from some sudden access of passion or yielding to temptation.

"In business the line of demarcation between 'criminal' and 'sharp' is so fine that a man very easily oversteps it, and is lost.

"There are different grades of punishment in prison. First—to be kept in on Sunday, not permitted to attend chapel or meals and deprived of tobacco. Second—Confinement in dark cells, which is considered by some the highest punishment. Third—What I consider the greatest punishment, the convict to be confined to his own cell, to be served with regular food, and deprived of all labor and exercise.

"Confinement in dark cells has two other

reasons. This is one of the best position and is much sought after.

"He was granted many liberties and was thoroughly trusted. His time was up, and I asked him if it would make any difference if he was not discharged until the next day.

"Mr. Sage," he said, "I shall be a man and I need money very badly, I wouldn't stay here another day for a thousand dollars."

CHANEZ OLNEY.

## ONLY BUFFALO ALIVE.

It is believed that a few buffalo—perhaps as many as twenty-five or thirty head—still linger in the Canadian River country of the Texas Panhandle. That is an arid and inhospitable region, almost uninhabited, and so rough topographically as to forbid pursuit of the animals on horseback. They are now extremely shy and wary, and can run at an astonishing rate when alarmed, so that it is well-nigh impossible to get near them.

There are, presumably, no other wild buffalo in the United States, excepting those which still survive in the Yellowstone National Park. This herd, which numbered 400 a few years ago, has been so far reduced by pot-hunters and sportsmen poaching on the Government reservation that now it is said only about forty remain alive.

## Pictorial History of Queen Victoria's Reign, Showing Seven Great Events Since She Ascended the Throne.

ON June 22 the so-called Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria will be celebrated by a pageant of asplendor unparalleled in English history. This date marks the completion of the sixtieth year of the Queen's reign. She has already been on the throne longer than any other English sovereign.

The coronation, which will centre about the venerable Queen is really a memorial of a period in which the world has made tremendous material progress. No other period in history can be compared with it. The actual date of the Queen's accession was June 20, 1837. She was then eighteen years of age. During her infancy some important things happened. Her grandfather, George III., died within a year of her birth.

The great Napoleon died in his British prison at St. Helena in the following year.

The year 1830 saw the last of Bourbon rule, that restored mediæval abuse in France.

The use of steam as a locomotive force began properly with the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railroad in this year. Steel pens and the first reform bill date from 1832.

A great event in the year of the Queen's coronation, 1838, was the steaming of the Great Western from Liverpool to New York. The first telegraph line was regularly operated in the same year.

The unfortunate expedition of Sir John Franklin, in search of the North Pole in 1845, was the beginning of this branch of

exploration. In the following year the greatest event of the Queen's reign took place—the repeal of the corn laws, through the efforts of Sir Robert Peel. This relieved hundreds of thousands of English people from starvation and laid the foundation of the Empire's commercial greatness.

There are plenty of black spots on this period which Englishmen are glorifying so much. In 1840 a terrible famine occurred in England and a very violent outbreak of the agrarian agitation took place. In the next year Daniel O'Connell died, and Ireland fell back into its usual hopeless condition.

A great Liberal movement, accompanied by rebellions and revolutions, stirred the

European continent in 1848. The Orleans family lost the French throne, and a republic was proclaimed, to be quickly followed by the coup d'état and the Empire of Louis Napoleon.

In 1854 came the war with Russia in the Crimea, the last time England fought a great European power. It was a remarkable exhibition of incompetence on the part of British officials and bravery on the part of British soldiers. The charge of the Light Brigade alone is sufficient to make it live in history and literature.

The great Indian mutiny, with its horrible massacres, broke out in 1857. It led to the final extinction of the East India Company and the direct government of India by England.

Important as a matter of family history, was the marriage in 1858, of the Queen's eldest daughter to Prince Frederick William of Prussia, a union blessed by that prodigy, the present German Emperor.

In 1860 the legal disabilities of the Jews were removed, as they had previously been done in the case of Catholics.

The Queen paid her first visit to Ireland in 1861 and in that year her husband died, for whom she has ever since mourned. In 1860 the young Prince of Wales visited the United States and Canada.

Our great civil war then occupied the world's attention. England's part in it included recognition of the belligerency of the Confederacy, a threat of war over the Trent affair and the sitting out of

the Alabama, which sailed from Liverpool in 1862.

The Prince or Wales was married in 1863, and, incidentally, the sources of the Nile were partly discovered. In 1864 the Queen became a grandmother.

The Alabama claims were arbitrated in 1872, and the Shah of Persia visited the Queen—a very picturesque episode—in 1873. The Queen was proclaimed Empress of India in 1876.

One of the earliest of the wars that have established British supremacy in South Africa was fought with the Zulus in 1879. In the following year Disraeli was defeated at the elections and Gladstone became Premier again. England had previously announced that the Transvaal was

added to the Empire, but when she attempted to carry this declaration into effect the Boers defeated the British forces with great loss at Majuba Hill, 1881.

Undiscouraged by this event, England proceeded to the occupation of Egypt in 1882.

General Gordon was sent to the Sudan in 1884 to relieve the Egyptian garrison besieged there. Khartoum was captured by the Mahdists and Gordon killed. A well equipped English expedition was sent to the Sudan last year, and now holds Dongola, more than half the way to Khartoum.

Since then the British Empire has grown pretty steadily, in spite of the repulse of Mr. Jameson's raid by the Boers and the firm assertion of the Monroe doctrine in the interests of Venezuela.



CORONATION OF THE YOUNG QUEEN, 1838.



LIGHT BRIGADE AT BALAKLAVA, 1854.



VICTORIA A GRANDMOTHER, 1864.



SHAH OF PERSIA VISITS HER MAJESTY, 1873.



ZULU WAR, 1879.



DONGOLA EXPEDITION, 1896.